CANADIAN Film Weekly
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Smith, Lichtman, Einfeld Due

Emp-U Sues For Recount In NS

The suit of Empire-Universal Films, Ltd., against the Yarmouth Theatre Amusement Co., former operator of the Capitol Theatre, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, is being heard in the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, at Halifax, before Mr. Justice McQuarrie. The thea-

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Dom'n Talent Vs. CNE's Hughes

Decision of Elwood Hughes, general manager of the Canadian National Exhibition, to bring back Olsen & Johnson for the show in front of the 22,500-seat grandstand touched off a bitter controversy in Toronto recently. Hughes' statement that a Cana-

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Will Join In 20th-Fox Canadian Division Sales Convention

Al Lichtman, exponent of the now-famous Lichtman Plan for distribution of Twentieth Century-Fox product, and Andy W. Smith, Jr. will lead the home office delegation, drawn from the company's major executives, to its Canadian convention in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on June 23rd and 24th.

Lichtman, 20th-Fox vice-president, and Smith, vice-president and general sales manager, will join Arthur Silverstone, general manager for Canada, who will preside, in making the convention as important as that of last year, when President Spyros Skouras attended. It is generally admitted that Silverstone has revitalized 20th-Fox in Canada since last year's meeting, at

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'Loon's Necklace' To Venice

Crawley Films of Ottawa has been requested to rush a print of its 16 mm. color short, The Loon's Necklace, to Venice, Italy, for entry in the great film festival held there annually. The film, sponsored by Imperial Oil, was the choice in the recent Canadian Film Awards and earlier won honors at the Edinburgh festival.

Crawley has 29 non-theatrical shorts currently in production, as well as 28 film strips. Seven of its shorts in work now are for USA users, while it holds contracts for American distribution of 15 others.

Assigned To Script

Russell Hughes has been assigned to script Warners' Sugarfoot.

CMA Ponders TV At NB Session

If some plan for television in Canada can be started on this summer, the newest medium of news and entertainment could be made available in many parts of Canada late in 1950, S. M. Finlayson of Canadian Marconi Co., Ltd., Montreal, told the annual

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Plan 4,200-Seat Project For Mtl.

What is expected to be the largest theatre in the British Empire and one of the biggest in the world is being planned by France-Film Company for the corner of St. Catherine East and St. Elizabeth in Montreal.

To cost approximately $1,500,-

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Hamilton Exhibs Beef At Carnivals, Etc.

Motion picture theatre operators in Hamilton, Ontario, do not object to two or three carnivals playing that city but feel that licenses should not be extended throughout the summer months, the Board of Commissioners of Police of that city was told by R. E. Maynard, manager of the Palace Theatre and president of the Hamilton Theatre Managers Association, and Kent Craig, manager of United Amusements Limited.

Thousands of dollars were being taken out of the city, away from local merchants and places of business by such outside types

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'Bed Of Roses' Leads

Robert Ryan, Joan Fontaine and Zachary Scott have the leads in RKO's Bed of Roses, which Nicholas Ray is directing.

Alberta Assoc'n Asks Drive-in Protection

That drive-in theatres located within 12 miles of the limits of a city, town or village be regarded as a theatre within such limits insofar as the sequence of runs are concerned was the request placed before the Calgary Film Board of Trade recently by the Alberta Theatres Association, it was reported to the membership of the latter body by Roy Chown, secretary-treasurer, at its annual meeting, held for three days this June at Banff Springs Hotel.

In the course of the meeting Kenneth M. Leach, well-known Calgary theatre operator and

(Continued on Page 3)

Paramount Purchase

Paramount has purchased the forthcoming Saturday Evening Post serial, "Manhattan Madness," for future production.

MASON WINS, WALKER LOSES IN NS

A. J. Mason, Independent theatre operator of the Capitol, Springhill, Nova Scotia, was elected Liberal member from Cumberland Centre to the Legislature during the recent provincial elections, while M. E. Walker, Maritime circuit operator, was unsuccessful as Progressive Conservative candidate in Halifax West.

Mason, who is prominent in Canadian film trade politics, was unsuccessful several times previously. In winning Cumberland Centre, a new seat, he attracted 2,209 votes, while the PC candidate, A. B. Smith, got 1,611 and Mrs. Cedric Welton of the CCF 1,409.

Walker with 3,703, ran second to R. M. Fielding, member of the last House, who got 6,640 votes. F. M. Young, CCF, was third with 2,951. This was Walker's first try for office.

Mason is president of the Maritime Allied Exhibitors Association and Walker is chairman of the executive committee.

PRESS BATTLES OVER NEWS RECEPTION

Statement of the Toronto Daily Star that Toronto theatre audiences had demonstrated against the Progressive Conservative-Drew footage in newsreels was denied next day by the Toronto Globe & Mail, which quoted officials to the contrary.

Petrillo Suggests Union Ease-Up

The suggestion of James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, that local unions adjust their wage demands to encourage the revival of vaudeville will likely have a friendly echo in Canada. At the annual convention in San Francisco last week the musician's leader, who is as frank as he is unafraid, admitted that conditions now did not favor strike action.

Only by taking a more compromising position with regard to rehearsals and other expense-creating factors in vaudeville will the union be able to find work for some of the thousands of theatre musicians for whom regular employment ended when the talkies came in, Petrillo stated.

Walter C. Murdock, head of the Toronto Musical Protective Association and international executive officer for Canada, has been out of the city but John Wilson, acting in his absence, "had nothing to say." When the Canadian Film Weekly suggested that a difference of opinion between Petrillo and Murdock on the former's position was unlikely, Wilson said: "You're not trying to put words in my mouth, are you?"

However, an official of Odeon Theatres, which has revived vaudeville in some of its neighborhood theatres, stated that an approach to the musicians' union is somewhat easier now than it had been for some time past and that "something could be worked out if necessary."

Although not contemplated, vaudeville may yet find its way to Odeon's flagship in Toronto. The house has had USA-product problems since it opened early last fall and a company official said that these, if not solved, will lead to the investigation of other types of entertainment.

When RKO desired to try vaudeville again in New York the IATSE stagehands' local agreed to co-operate through modifying charges and this has led to an expansion of the art and growth of employment. RKO New York Palace bill will soon move around a circuit made up of eight cities.

At the convention Petrillo said that an unsatisfactory settlement of last year's recording fight was accepted because union members, under economic stress, were bootlegging their talents. Talking about the strength of the union in relation to movie producers, Petrillo told his men that "They've got so much canned music on the shelves that they wouldn't care if we never came back to work."

TIESLERS HURT IN NY YACHT FIRE

A sudden fire which began in the engine room of their 50-foot ketch while in Long Island Sound caused Hans Tiesler second-degree burns and his wife to suffer from shock. Tiesler is vice-president and general manager of Audio Pictures, Toronto, in which city they reside.

The Tieslers were directing repairs to the craft, which was docked, and intended to sail it to Toronto. They fought the fire until joined by dockyard employees and city firemen.

They were hospitalized for a couple of days.

'HOME OF BRAVE' TO ODEON-TOR.

United Artists' great anti-prejudice film, Home of the Brave, will go into the Odeon-Toronto, probably in July. The film, which treats with the effect of racism upon a Negro soldier, was produced by Stanley Kramer, who, with his associates, turned out the sensational fight feature, Champion, which opened in Montreal to the accompaniment of broken house records at the Orpheum.

Home of the Brave has broken house records or came close to it in every engagement so far. It has left UA's Red River, a great grosser, behind.

Kramer is reported to have been offered the top production post at Hollywood's Eagle Lion Studios.

ARGENTINA TOUGH ON H'WOOD

Unwillingness to raise its dollar debt, extreme nationalism and the fact that the domestic film industry has about 32 features on hand are the reasons why no Hollywood films have been permitted to enter Argentina since early March.

The American companies, which have 3,000 employees, have considered pulling out of Argentina but will likely stay on and hope for a better deal. They have indicated a willingness to wait as long as asked for the right to take earnings out of the country.

It is thought that British films might fare better, for they may be covered in the Argentina-British trade pact.

Fred Dillon Due In Montreal, St. John

Fred Dillon, executive director of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, will complete his "get acquainted" tour of territory headquarters with a visit to Montreal on June 20-21-22 and Saint John June 23-24.

He recently returned from visits to the Western exchange capitals.

SRO-Alliance Joins Distribs Ass'n

Selznick Alliance, Limited, Canadian releasing organization recently formed by SRO and Alliance Films, has become a member of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association. Neither of the partner companies held membership previously. Joe Marks is general manager of Selznick Alliance.

Meggs New Mono-AA Pub Art Director

Louis S. Lifton, director of advertising and publicity for Monogram and Allied Artists, announced recently the appointment of Charles W. Meggs to the post of publicity art director.

Until recently Meggs was art director for the motion picture unit of J. Walter Thompson, and prior to that was art director for Buchanan & Co. in New York.

'Courage Of Ten' Next Screen Plays

Stanley Kramer, producer of Champion and Home of the Brave, Twin Screen Plays, Inc. film hits which are vying with one another for top honors, has signed James Edwards, young Negro actor who plays a leading role in Home of the Brave, for a major supporting role in The Courage of Ten, a new production which Kramer will launch this fall.

Kirk Douglas, who won wide acclaim for his dynamic portrayal of the title role in Champion, will star in The Courage of Ten, which will dramatize the problems and triumphs of paraplegic war veterans.

Picture will be released through United Artists.

Story Of Jim Thorpe To Be Filmed By WB

The All-American, fabulous story of Jim Thorpe, America's greatest athlete, will be brought to the screen by Warner Bros. Story was written by Vincent X. Flaherty and Douglas Morrow and has been assigned to Everett Freeman to produce.

The story will bring to the screen the almost incredible saga of the Indian lad from Carlisle Institute who was perhaps the greatest athlete in America's sports history and the greatest inspiration to the nation's youth.

Sid Blumenstock Joins Paramount

Max E. Youngstein, Paramount director of national advertising, publicity and exploitation, recently announced the appointment of Sid Blumenstock as advertising manager, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Stanley Shuford. Blumenstock, affiliated with the 20th Century-Fox advertising and publicity department since 1938, assumed his new duties Monday, June 20th.

In announcing the appointment, Youngstein stated: "Our choice of Sid Blumenstock has been made after a very thorough study of the manpower available within the industry and outside. We have selected him because we feel very strongly that his overall motion picture background and practical showmanship experience give Paramount the type of individual who is completely familiar with the advertising problems of exhibitors throughout the country and is equipped to solve them. This appointment is another step forward in the Paramount policy to develop a closer working relationship between distribution and exhibition."

A youthful veteran of the industry, Blumenstock has been in the production, exhibition and distribution phases of the motion picture business. Starting in production with Famous Players-Lasky's Astoria, LI, Studio, and later with the First National Studio, Burbank, Calif., Blumenstock has managed theatres, conducted his own theatre accessory business and for four years prior to joining 20th-Fox, he was advertising and publicity director of Warner Brothers' South Jersey theatres. His affiliation with Fox began in 1938 as press book editor, following which he handled trade ads, co-op campaigns, sales promotion and other advertising duties. Since 1944 he has been in active supervision of the 20th Century-Fox field exploitation staff and been responsible for development of local advertising and publicity campaigns.

In 'Wabash Avenue'

Red Nichols and his Five Pennies have been assigned roles in Wabash Avenue, new Twentieth Century-Fox Technicolor musical starring Betty Grable, Victor Mature and Phil Harris.

New Release Title

Shadows of the West has been set as release title of Monogram's second western starring Whip Wilson with Andy Clyde, formerly known as Mark of the Whip. Film was directed by Ray Taylor.

20th-Fox Convention

(Continued from Page 1)

which time he had been here but a short while as successor of Sydney Samson.

Of major importance also is the first visit to Canada of Charles Einfeld as vice-president in charge of the company's relations with the public. The advertising, publicity, trade relations and other departments and desks are the responsibility of Einfeld, who made a distinguished record during his long association with Warner Brothers. He left that company for film production but was induced to join Fox in his present capacity after being connected with the making of several features.

With the homes office delegation is Peter Levathes, the organization's short subject sales manager, and the popular Roger Ferri, for years now editor of the company's private trade magazine, "Dynamo." Through that magazine Spyros Skouras announced that the 1949-50 sales drive would be in celebration of the company's double anniversary — the 35th year of the company and the 15th year since the consolidation of the old Fox Film Corporation with 20th Century Pictures.

Twentieth-Fox now has 34 films in preparation, while two of the present releases, Mr. Belvedere Goes to College and It Happens Every Spring, are doing outstanding business in Canadian theatres.

Among those who will participate in the discussions of product, sales and exhibition policies, and promotion are, according to territory:

Saint John — Reg March, branch manager.

Montreal — Eddie English, manager; James Pearson, salesman; Arthur Quintal, booker.

Winnipeg — J. H. Huber, manager; R. Cringan, salesman.

Calgary — Vern Skorey, manager; Elroy O'Loghlin, salesman.

Vancouver — J. E. Patterson, manager.

Toronto — Peter Myers, manager; Vic Beatty and Arthur Hersch, salesmen; Jimmy Powis, booker.

Others from Toronto who will participate are Emily Barrett, Dominion booker; Sam Glasier, head of publicity for Canada; and Bill Reid, advertising.

During the two days of the sessions there will be several luncheons and dinners at which home office and Toronto branch staffs, as well as guests from the trade, will be present.

CHARLES EINFELD
20th-Fox vice-president in charge of the company's advertising, publicity and promotion activities, who will attend its Canadian convention.

ARTHUR SIVERSTONE
20th-Fox general manager for Canada, who will preside at the Canadian convention of the company.

AL LICHTMAN
Vice-president of 20th Century-Fox Corporation, who will share discussions at the Canadian sales meeting in Toronto.

BEEF AT CARNIES

(Continued from Page 1)

of amusements, the theatre spokesmen contended.

"We pay taxes 52 weeks in a year and these outside carnivals come into the city for the summer months and take thousands of dollars away from local business," Craig said.

Maynard pointed out that Hamilton charged only $100 per week for a carnival license while Toronto charged $500 per day. Sudbury and Ottawa had banned them from within the city limits.

It was suggested that service clubs which tie in with carnivals exercise greater precaution to give the public better protection.

In suggesting that the theatre operators take the problem to the Board of Control Magistrate H. E. Burbidge, chairman of the commission, said: "You have our sympathy in this matter."

It was revealed also that the municipality's chief medical health officer, Dr. L. A. Clarke, had written the Hamilton Harbour Board stating that "sanitary arrangements for carnivals and circuses were unsatisfactory" to his department. He asked that permanent accommodation be erected on the property which the board rented to carnivals and that an extra fee be charged.

The discussion ended when Mayor Sam Lawrence advised that the Board of Health had power to regulate the problem.

EMP-U NS ACTION

(Continued from Page 1)

tre is now being operated by Odeon Theatres, which acquired it from the defendants and is not concerned in the action.

Empire-Universal claims that the former operator made improper returns on its percentage pictures played in the Capitol, a 1,249-seat house, from 1939 to 1946. It asks for the money it alleges is owing, plus interest.

Mentioned in connection with the suit are George Killam and Stanley O'Brien, directors of the Yarmouth Theatre Amusement Co. and prominent Maritime business men. The manager of the theatre during the period of the alleged improper returns has been served with a subpoena.

The action was begun in 1946 and caused quite a number of legal skirmishes.

Several other distribution companies whose films played the house during the same period as those of Empire-Universal are said to be considering action.

Wolfson To Script

P. J. Wolfson will script Warners' The Other Woman.

ALBERTA ASSOC'N

(Continued from Page 1)

sporting figure, was re-elected president, while returned to office with him were the body's two vice-presidents, Walter P. Wilson of Calgary and Douglas Miller of Taber, as was Roy Chown in his previous capacity.

Directors elected for the new term were H. G. Stevenson, Lacombe; D. A. Boyle, Macleod; D. C. Fox, Pincher Creek; E. T. Lewis, High River; Lee Brewerton, Raymond; L. A. Maher, Medicine Hat; W. Ramsay, Canmore; M. R. Beatty, Red Deer; W. Pilkie, Jr., Vermilion; J. J. Leiberman and Arnold Entwistle, Edmonton; and Matt Park, P. D. Egan and Harry Cohen, Calgary.

The series of sessions, attended by 60 of the association's 90 members, ended with a banquet at which wives and special guests were also present. During their stay the ladies attended various affairs arranged for their entertainment while the men were in session.

Occupying considerable time during the meeting were such subjects as classification of pictures, provincial regulations, public relations and means of stimulating tourist trade to Alberta. Other matters were one-man operation, the after-8 p.m. ban on attendance by children and theatre operation generally.

Royal Alexandra To Show 'The Informer'

RKO Radio's The Informer, which won several Academy Awards when first released in 1935, will play a return engagement at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, in August. Victor McLaglen, Preston Foster, Una O'Connor and Wallace Ford are featured in the picture.

WANTED

Manager for neighborhood theatre in Eastern Ontario city. Experienced and capable with references. Apply in own handwriting giving full particulars. All applications will be treated confidentially.

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CANADIAN FILM WEEKLY
175 Bloor St. E., Toronto

Film Weekly

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—Boxoffice
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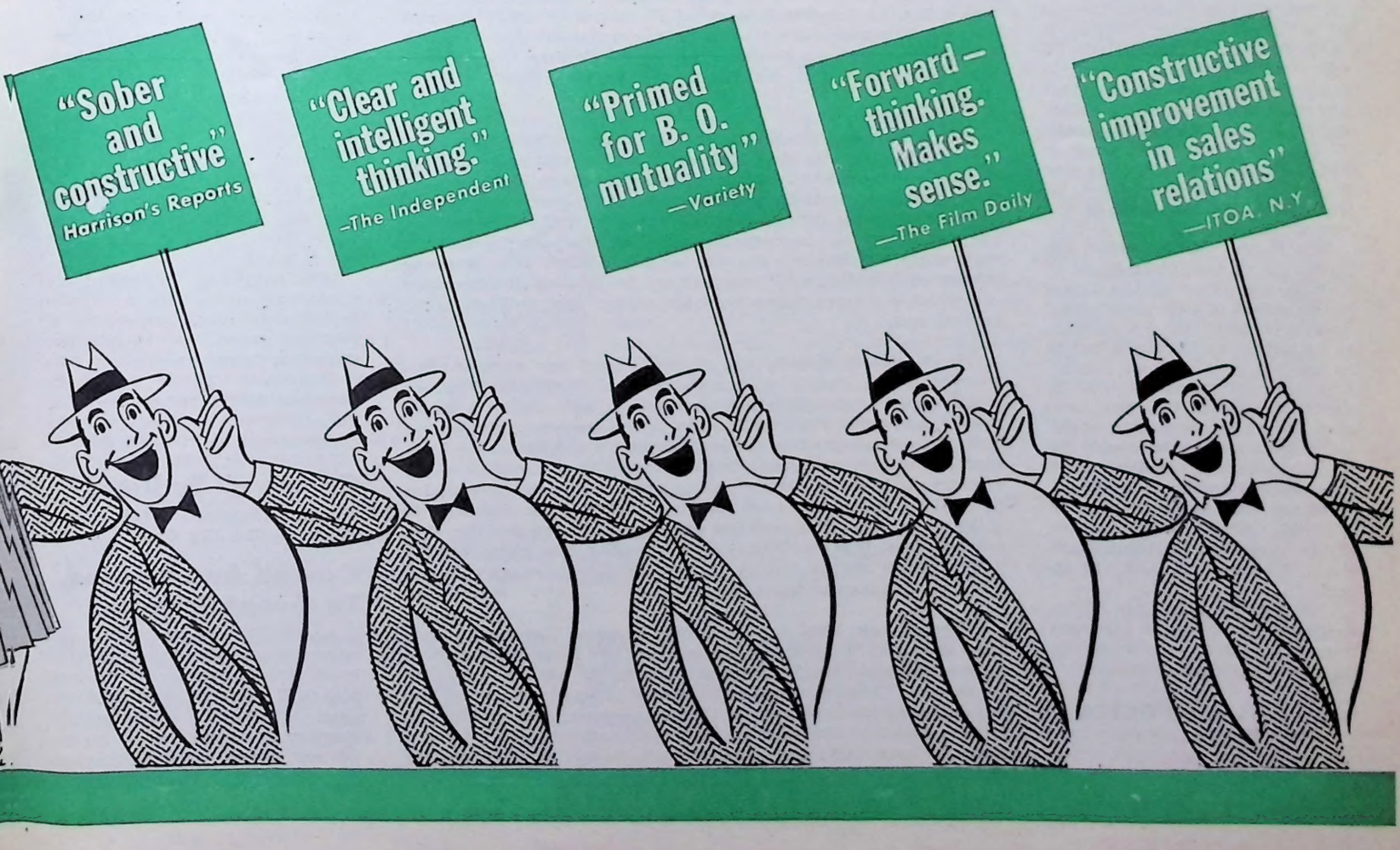

CMA PONDERS TV

(Continued from Page 1)

meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers Association at St. Andrews-by-the-Sea, NB, recently.

His prediction followed the suggestion that the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation grant TV licenses to present applicants from Montreal, Toronto and Western Ontario, while at the same time devote its own resources to centres from which no applications had come, such as Vancouver, Halifax and Winnipeg.

Finlayson was one of seven speakers from Canada and the United States who described television as a great new industrial giant which will virtually revolutionize Canadian life socially and economically. It would, they said, have a greater effect on our economy than anything since the introduction of the motor car—from a standpoint of jobs, wages, working conditions and living standards.

Within a few years Canada will require 250,000 sets annually at a cost of between $50 and $75 millions, and this would bear on the metal and lumber business in a tremendous way, stated F. R. Deakins of RCA Victor, Montreal.

Sad days are ahead for Hollywood if it doesn't move fast in the TV field, George E. Sterling, a commissioner of the USA Federal Communications Commission, told those present. "It will become a whistle stop at the end of a coaxial cable" unless it holds its own, he predicted. TV was outdistancing movies in public interest and he felt that erstwhile patrons would rather get their entertainment at home. At its present rate of growth in the USA television "will be one of the country's ten largest industries in the next four or five years," he claimed.

Key to the CBC's careful approach to TV was given by A. D. Dunton, chairman of the Board of Governors of that government body, who said that "A medium as important as television has to be thought of in national terms." American programs would be used "because of the way commercial arithmetic has to work" and these would share our TV screens "with Canadian talent expressing Canadian ideas."

Others who spoke were J. H. Rowlatt, Cosar-Canada, Ltd., Halifax; and A. B. Hunt, Northern Electric Co., Ltd., Montreal.

Chairman L. L. Anthes of Toronto said that it was the most important CMA convention he had attended in 40 years.

Gail Russell Pacted

Gail Russell has signed a new seven-year contract with Paramount.

In the Land of Babble On

Fred Robin has succeeded Art Lefevbre, resigned as manager of the Odeon, Rouyn . . . **Jock Davison,** manager of the Odeon, St. Thomas, was banged up a bit in a recent auto accident . . . **Radio is developing** its equivalent of the woman who trips on the theatre stairs and wants to sue. A Toronto woman wants $5,000 from the CBC for tripping over a wire while walking toward her seat for a broadcast . . . **The Forum,** formerly the Hudson, will become the Mount Pleasant and the King's Playhouse is now the Avon.

The Lionel Axler stag was real fun, with me acting as roastmaster and putting everybody on the pan . . . **Loyd Mills,** former 20th Century supervisor and later a Buffalo theatre pilot, is now manager of the Scoop Theatre, Louisville, which became an art cinema a while back . . . **Gaumont-Kalee** didn't move to the Odeon Building, as stated here, but its Bestec-Sciex division did . . . **Harry Popkin,** ex-Toronto lad who is now a California theatre tycoon, may make Roving Diplomat for Paramount.

See where the boys in Hollywood gave Mono's Steve Broidy a party on the 25th anni of his entry into this business — to which we add our congrats . . . **Steambout 'Round the Bend** and David Harum were double-billed in an LA theatre as the first Will Rogers' pix to be released in ten years. In NY Universal is testing public reaction to W. C. Fields' My Little Chickadee and The Bank Dick. How about some Rogers and Fields films for Canada? . . . **'The Naked and the Dead,'** the war novel, is banned in this country.

Canadian Motion Picture Productions, which made Sins of the Fathers, has had the theme of its new feature okayed by Joe Breen of the MPAA Hollywood office. Incidentally, control of the company is now in the hands of Gordon Fairley, who has had previous industry interests and is now head of Hotel Holdings, Ltd. This makes him an important figure in the action of CMPP against Maynard Films to outlaw the distribution agreement through which the latter company is handling Sins of the Fathers. That picture has had its USA test runs but is still on the censor's shelf in Ontario.

Jack Karr reports that Quebec Productions' Paul L'Anglais, following the success of A Man and His Sins, will make another French-language film . . . **From Hollywood** Jack Hirshberg reports in the Montreal Standard that Lionel Shapiro, who recently took a kick at the Cinema City in Maclean's (that's a magazine), has sold Universal a story for about $50,000. His book provided the basic story for Paramount's The Sealed Verdict . . . **Someone celebrated** Winnipeg's 75th anniversary by stealing Joe Bermac's car, which contained his packed bags. Had to send to Toronto for another suit.

In Maclean's recently one James Dugan took a cheap and mean whack at "gossip" columnists, particularly Walter Winchell and Leonard Lyons. For that magazine it amounts to a sneak punch, for neither columnist's work is well-known to Canadians. Both provide clean, honest entertainment for millions of USA readers and both are among this continent's best defenders of democracy. It is an unbalanced account by a gossip sneering at his journalistic betters and I am surprised that Maclean's allowed its columns to be used in such an unfair way. I suppose it is that magazine's thanks to Winchell for devoting his whole column several years ago to singing the praises of this country in the 175-or-so newspapers which print him.

There's new blood in the theatre business these days. One man explained his entry by telling of his old business, that of a running a hotel. Tough lumberjacks used to take a notion to break up the beverage room after a spell of sopping up suds. The boss knocked the notion out of their noggins with one punch. One day he delivered that one punch but the other guy got off the floor. "I knew right there that the time to get into some other business was here," he said. He picked the movie business.

LAMPORT VS. CNE

(Continued from Page 1)

dian production just wouldn't draw caused Controller Allan Lamport to demand that he be discharged, while Canadian talent agency representatives also disputed the position of the CNE manager.

Lamport challenged Hughes on his statement that "a Canadian show produced by a Canadian is not what the public wants." He says that a Canadian show, produced by Canadians and based on Canadian entertainers, is just what the public does want. The Controller, who has been criticizing Hughes and the CNE since the last show, announced his intention of forming an organization representing Canadian talent in all fields. Meetings have been held in the Controller's office and the organization, when official, will forward a brief to the CNE executive.

The controversy caused the first open meeting in the history of the CNE to be called and it listened to the directors, the city controllers, Controller Lamport and Hughes. Col. K. R. Marshall, CNE president, accused Lamport of trying to sabotage the fair. In the end Hughes was sustained.

Hec McCallum of Mart Kenney Enterprises, a national booking agency, Len Headley, radio executive and chairman of the Crippled Children's benefit show, and Rai Purdy, Toronto producer, have disagreed completely with Hughes' stand and claim that a show could be produced by Canadians featuring Canadian talent, with the possible exception of a name headliner.

Purdy, who was one of those responsible for producing the Canadian Army Show, cited Wayne & Schuster, Mildred Morey and Doug Romaine as outstanding entertainers who might leave this country if they didn't get a break.

"I'm beginning to believe it's a hardship to be born a Canadian," Purdy said, "especially if you are born an entertainer. Canadian talent receives no encouragement. Where else can Canadian talent find an outlet in Canada if it's shut out of productions such as the CNE show?"

Cromwell To Direct

John Cromwell will direct Warners' The Big Cage.

Cowan And Hanson To Great Britain

James Cowan, publicity and advertising chief of the J. Arthur Rank Organization of Canada, and O. R. Hanson, head of Monogram-Allied Artists, are both in England for conferences. An important story may be released when their visit is concluded.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 14, No. 25 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

The Passionate Friends

with Ann Todd, Claude Rains, Trevor Howard.

Eagle-Lion 86 Mins.

TASTEFULLY HANDLED TRIANGLE DRAMA HAS FINE LOCAL SHOTS. BEST BET IS THE FEMININE AUDIENCE ELEMENT. PLAYED WITH HONEST INTENSITY.

Handled on the directorial side and heightened pictorially by some first rate scenes of Switzerland's lakes and mountains which tend to minimize the human problems of the participants in the familiar triangle of husband-wife-lover. The Passionate Friends at best is one for the distaff trade. It is played with honest intensity. But the dramatic achievements of Ann Todd, Claude Rains and Trevor Howard, all sound players, do not rise above familiar lines and situations that hew to standard patterns in dialogue and such. H. G. Wells authored the literary work from which the film derives. It was made by J. Arthur Rank's Cineguild unit. David Lean directed.

As the plot develops in smooth flashbacks, it depicts the adulterous conduct of a young woman married to an elderly man who by chance met a former acquaintance and in time strayed from her marital vows. Rains, husband to Miss Todd, is in Germany at the time and on his return he soon has knowledge of what transpired. Miss Todd never did love him, it comes out, she wanted position and things. Trevor Howard is more her age and lives a semi-Bohemian life while teaching in a London college. Their affair is terminated by Miss Todd who decides to remain with the security Rains can offer.

Years later they meet by accident in Switzerland and are innocently attracted again but Rains appears and files for a divorce, naming Howard. Howard is now married happily. Miss Todd is distraught and confronts Rains in an attempt to make him withdraw his action. He refuses at first. Miss Todd goes to an Underground station and is about to jump in front of a train when Rains seizes her. They are reunited.

CAST: Ann Todd, Claude Rains, Trevor Howard, Isabel Dean, Betty Ann Davies, Arthur Howard, Guido Lorraine, Marcel Poncin.

CREDITS: A JAR-Cineguild Production; Producer, Ronald Neame; Director, David Lean; Screenplay, Eric Ambler; From the novel by H. G. Wells; Photography, Guy Green.

DIRECTION: Fine. **PHOTOGRAPHY:** Fine.

Home of the Brave

with Douglas Dick, Steve Brodie, Jeff Corey, Lloyd Bridges, Frank Lovejoy, James Edwards, Cliff Clark.

United Artists 85 Mins.

SECOND BRILLIANT PRODUCTION BY STANLEY KRAMER-MARK ROBSON RANKS WITH GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT AS AN HONEST ATTEMPT TO PRESENT A PROBLEM. SHOULD PROVE NOTEWORTHY.

A taut, indicting film depicting a fundamental American problem, Home of the Brave is at bottom a case history in the persecution of the Negro. What stems from the screen version of Arthur Laurents' play, which originally dealt with anti-Semitism, is a clinical inspection that lays bare incidents relating to cause and effect. There is much material, situation and dialogue that gets across to the viewer pointedly and is thoroughly penetrating in its impact.

Second production by Screen Plays, which made Champion, under the guidance of Stanley Kramer and the directorial hand of Mark Robson, the film's story is compact, compelling; there is finely achieved tension in its development.

It is not a pretentious production from an expansive viewpoint. When the critical word gets around, the film's audience draw capacity, heightened by word of mouth, should prove noteworthy.

But in the honest analysis it must also be considered in the light of a "message" film, or one of "significance," insofar as the general public acceptance or rejection of such films is to be construed.

Gentleman's Agreement need no longer stand alone. In Home of the Brave it has a profoundly affecting companion piece.

An incident in the war in the Pacific theatre serves to display the action. A voluntary mission is required to map an island, held by the Japanese, in order to secure information prior to an invasion. Four men are required. They must have special capabilities. Under the command of Douglas Dick the group takes form with Steve Brodie, Lloyd Bridges, Frank Lovejoy, whites, and James Edwards, who comes to the unit, a volunteer from a remote colored unit who has special capabilities. It is indicated that Negroes are rear echelon, non-combatant service troops. The arrival of Edwards is not only a shocking surprise but also a problem. Edwards renews his friendship with Bridges, with whom he attended school, was on the best of friendship terms, although he was hesitant to more fully develop this amity since he had a heritage of racial inferiority and its resultant effect.

The mission lands on the island and is under a high nervous tension that finally erupts in the vicious personality of Brodie. By this time the Japs have gotten the scent. There is pressure to complete the task. Bridges is wounded. The other men depart for the beach. Edwards remains behind to rescue an important map case. They cannot locate Bridges. When his panic ceases he goes back to find him.

By this time the Japs have seized the wounded Bridges and there follows a shocking sequence as the man's screams of torture penetrate the jungle and drive the Negro into helpless terror. When he does find the dying Bridges, Edwards later becomes paralyzed and is unable to rise to his feet.

Transported back to their base after a skirmish with the Jap patrol, the men — the story is told in flashbacks — bring varying degrees of compassion and understanding to the demented Edwards. By psychiatrical treatment and narco-synthesis Edwards is restored to normalcy, emerging a symbol and able to face the future with a certain inner confidence and a semblance of inter-racial tolerance.

Performances are honest, affecting and sound.

CAST: Douglas Dick, Steve Brodie, Jeff Corey, Lloyd Bridges, Frank Lovejoy, James Edwards, Cliff Clark.

CREDITS: Presented by Screen Plays Corp.; Producer, Stanley Kramer; Director, Mark Robson; Screenplay, Carl Foreman; Based on an original play by Arthur Laurents; Production design, Rudolph Sternad; Music, Dmitri Tiomkin; Photography, Robert De Grasse; Editor, Harry Gerstad; Sets, Edward G. Boyle; Sound, Jean Speak.

DIRECTION: Brilliant. **PHOTOGRAPHY:** Very Good.

Cast In 'Oh, Doctor'

June Haver has been assigned the role of "Katie" in 20th Century-Fox' Oh, Doctor, romantic drama starring Dorothy McGuire and William Lundigan which went into production recently.

'Ticket To Tomahawk'

Ticket to Tomahawk will be the first Twentieth Century-Fox directorial assignment for Richard Sale. He co-authored the story with his wife, Mary Anita Loos.

Reign of Terror

with Robert Cummings, Richard Basehart, Arlene Dahl, Richard Hart.

International Film Distributors 89 Mins.

FRENCH REVOLUTION ROMANCE WELL STUDDED WITH INTRIGUE ELEMENTS. DELIVERS SUSPENSE. EFFECTIVELY PLAYED. CLOAK AND DAGGER STUFF, WELL PRODUCED.

Robespierre's Black Book of the French Revolution, filled with names of men and women who had future dates with the guillotine and how Robert Cummings used it to thwart the dictatorial ambitions of Richard Basehart, latter playing the head chopping statesman, form a basically interesting story groundwork in this Walter Wanger offering. As a costume drama of the latter 18th Century the film has a smartly contrived screenplay and a production that has a complimentary theatrical credence furnishing to the audience an ably done historical romance which manages to overcome the literary liberties and concoctions.

It is effectively played to the letter and spirit of the time with familiar notes apparent in the dialogue and the bloody era colorfully displayed in interesting production details wherein many extras are involved in the telling. It is cloak and dagger stuff played straight for suspense.

The mob is ruling France when the story opens. The Marquis de Lafayette enlists Robert Cummings to assist in a plot to remove Robespierre who has indicated he would become dictator in order to save his country from post-Revolution chaos. Cummings kills a man in an inn, assumes his identity, goes to Paris and sets about to enmesh himself in Basehart's organization to the end purpose that the man and his secret police and flair for guillotine assignments are halted.

Cummings runs into many dangerous situations in which he frequently encounters Arlene Dahl and her resistance group. In time he secures the Black Book and when its contents are made known, it proves fatal to Basehart. Anthony Mann directed.

CAST: Robert Cummings, Arlene Dahl, Richard Hart, Richard Basehart, Arnold Moss, Jess Barker, Norman Lloyd, Wade Crosby.

CREDITS: A Walter Wanger Production; Producer, William Cameron Menzies; Director, Anthony Mann; Screenplay, story, Philip Yordan, Aeneas MacKenzie; Photography, John Alton.

DIRECTION: Good.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Good.

Make sure of BIG

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Walt Disney's "DUMBO"

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SHOWMEN'S DREAM SHOW

for the vacation season — a combination of Walt Disney's 'Dumbo' and 'Saludos Amigos' . . . the perfect boxoffice program that gives you 106 minutes of Disney Delight . . .

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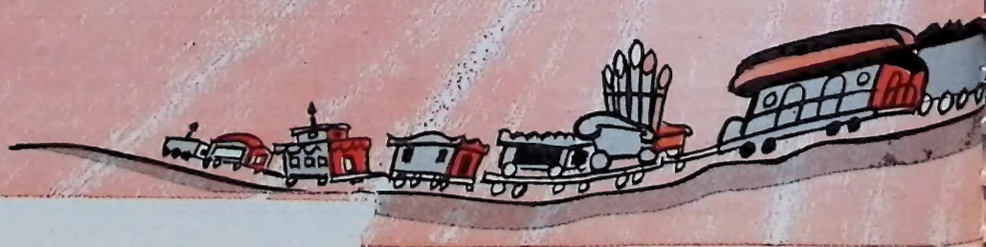

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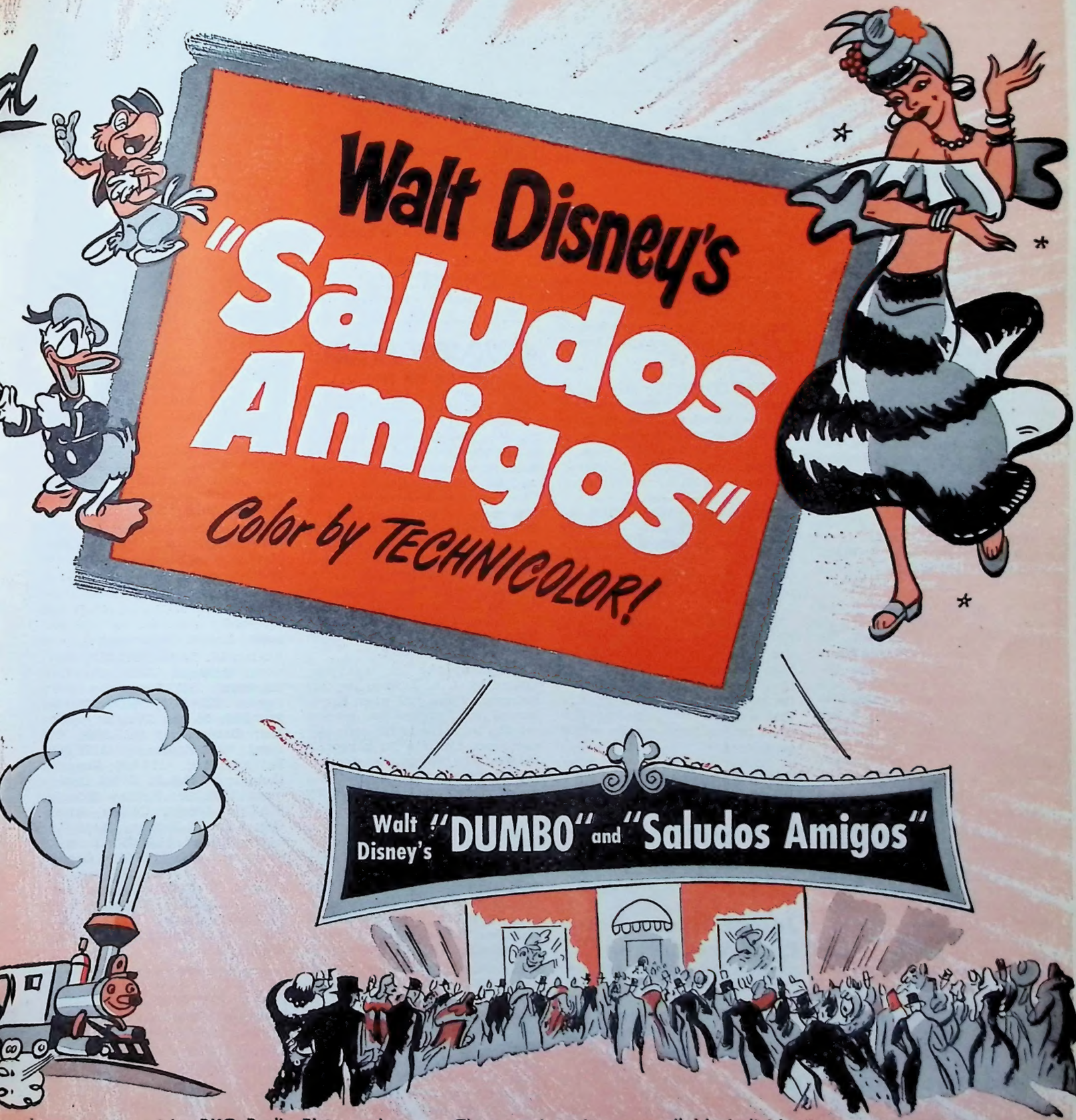

Walt Disney's "DUMBO" and "Saludos Amigos"

Re-Released by RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. . . . These motion pictures available individually or as a combination.

SHORT THROWS

ANTI-RACISM films have dealt with prejudice against the Jew and the Negro. 20th-Fox, which made Gentleman's Agreement and is currently producing Pinky, a feature dealing with difficulties of the Negro, has registered the title, "I Am a Nisei," with the MPAA. This indicates that the problems encountered by American-born Japanese will get sympathetic treatment. The same company now has a German find, Hildegard Neff, who will play opposite Paul Douglas in Quartered City, which will be filmed in Berlin.

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal's eastern ad-pub chief, will now handle all public relations for the company.

ESTABLISHMENT of a single public relations agency to represent distribution, exhibition and other industry sections was urged by Barney Balaban before the 11 circuit ad-pub chiefs who pow-wowed with Paramount officials in New York on the promotion plan for The Heiress. Jim Nairn was on hand from Famous Players and that circuit's topper, J. J. Fitzgibbons, was in NY and sat in.

ODEON won the Halifax fence dispute with Franklin & Herschorn.

TWO BEARERS of famed names in the industry passed on recently. One was A. P. Giannini, 79, whose Bank of America loans have been responsible for the production of many pictures and the support of many studios. The other was David Balaban, 53, cofounder with his brothers of Chicago's great Balaban & Katz circuit. He was a supervisor at the time of his death.

MOTION PICTURES and the industry are winning much editorial space in Canadian papers. The Windsor Daily Star, writing about the Ontario censor's praise of British pictures, defends the quality of those made in Hollywood, which seems to have been criticized by implication. The London Evening Press boosted the Pioneer's benefit show, the Sydney Post Record praised Hamlet, and the St. Thomas Times Journal boosted Quartet and Concert Magic as part of a "New Idea in Movies."

PERCENTAGE of sports footage in USA newsreels was 25. Next was government with 16 and then human interest with 12 per cent. Maybe that what's the matter with the newsreels — the smallness of that last figure.

FIRST NFB name to be mentioned in USA espionage investigations was Freda Linton, the second Hazen Sise and the third Stuart Legg. They were all brought in in such fashion that it could have been you or General Grant. Seems a shame to involve people so recklessly and reflect on their associations. The Washington Post and other newspapers have expressed alarm at the casual way in which reputations are being smeared.

USA HOUSE Appropriation Committee okayed $2 million for documentary film production.

COMMENTS of Canadian film reviewers are supplied by Eagle-Lion of Canada to all British producers with pictures being exhibited in this country. The reviewers and commentators will also see more of what the other fellow is writing about the same film. Critics are being asked to send their stuff to Eagle-Lion at 20 Carlton Street.

BRANTFORD, Ontario, is an example of how show business can be affected seriously overnight. This year that city has a new night baseball stadium, a midget auto track and a drive-in to compete with its movie houses.

CANADIAN FILM NEWS, the National Film Society's monthly publication, is quite a job and is going in for advertising. It may pop up printed one of these days instead of in its present form.

ROHAMA LEE, editor of Film News, best 16 mm. magazine in the USA, spent a few days in Toronto recently. TV will hurt the educational film field very little, she thinks. But she suggested that a machine be made which could project home movies or TV as desired.

RKO Cast Additions

Additions to the cast of RKO's The Bail Bond Story include Everett Glass, David Wolfe, Robert Gist, Roland Winters and Lynn Roberts. It stars George Raft, Pat O'Brien and Ella Raines.

Joseph Tisman New Para Art Director

Joseph Tisman, until 1948 art director in the advertising department of Warners, has accepted that post with Paramount Pictures. He is the second major addition made by Max E. Youngstein since taking over the position of national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for Paramount Pictures.

ANDY W. SMITH, JR.

20th-Fox vice-president in charge of sales, who will address the company's Canadian convention in Toronto.

4,200-SEAT PROJECT

(Continued from Page 1)

000 and have a total of 4,200 seats, the project will be of the dual-auditorium type, with the main section having 1,900 seats in the orchestra, 500 in the first balcony and 700 in the second, and be devoted solely to films. The basement theatre will have 800 seats in the orchestra and 300 in the balcony and will be equipped for both films and live shows. Present plans are to use the lower auditorium for the occasional legitimate attraction and to handle overflow crowds on weekends and holidays for the films being shown in the main section of the theatre.

Originally the lot was purchased by J. A. DeSeve for Renaissance Films and when he returned to France-Film several months back the latter company purchased the site for a reported $200,000. Building is not expected to start for about two years, when all leases held by tenants will have expired.

Other construction news in the Dominion featured the opening of the first of three drive-ins being built by the Ochs Management Company, the 500-car theatre in Kingston, Ontario. The other two, at Belleville and Hamilton, are expected to open this month.

Building is proceeding rapidly on A. M. Anderson's 450-seat theatre in Edmonton and it is expected to open late this summer. Work has started on the 600-seat, $70,000 project in Dawson Creek, BC, being built by Dawson Creek Theatres Limited, operators of Dawson Creek's only other house, the 380-seat Northland.

Charles Skouras Tops Earners

Charles P. Skouras, an $810,000-a-year, Greek-born movie theatre magnate, was listed last week by the USA treasury as the highest paid corporation employee in the United States in 1947. The Skouras family not only took the top place but placed another in the over $200,000 group. Spyros P. Skouras drew $201,300 as president of Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp.

Betty Grable, with $208,000, was the best paid of her sex in a list of more than 1,000 persons who drew more than $75,000 in pay from corporations in 1947 or in business fiscal years ending in 1948.

It was the third consecutive year at the top for Skouras, although his compensation as president of National Theatres Amusement Company, Inc., and of Fox West Coast Agency, Corp. was $175,300 less than they paid him the year before.

The sums listed were before taxes. On single persons, the 1947 federal income tax alone ran about $675,000 on a net income of $800,000, and about $149,000 on $200,000.

Miss Grable and Actress Olivia de Havilland were the only women among the 47 persons reported to have earned more than $200,000 during 1947.

Preston Sturges, director with 20th Century-Fox, with $370,650, was third to Skouras on the list of leading industrial earners.

Hollywood personalities were scattered through the salary list in goodly number. Among the better known names were:

Alan W. Ladd, $212,333; Raymond Milland, $253,333; Rex Harrison, $219,750; Tyrone Power, $231,027; Bing Crosby, $112,500; Melvin Douglas, $137,499; Bob Hope, $115,000; Edward G. Robinson, $125,000; Betty Hutton, $177,500; Dorothy Lamour, $150,916; Ethel Barrymore $131,250; Shirley Temple, $78,724; Joseph Cotten, $129,000; Anne Baxter, $112,833; Linda Darnell, $136,666; Douglas Fairbanks Jr., $135,000; George Jessell, $115,000; Maureen O'Hara, $198,666; George Sanders, $110,000; Clifton Webb, $117,222; Cornel Wilde, $190,500, and Walter E. Disney, $106,000.

Mrs. Florence Hunt and daughter wish to thank the many kind friends for their loving thoughts and kindness during their recent bereavement of husband and father.

Industry Aided By Gov't In Britain

Although the British Government, which is ruled by the Labour Party, is said not to be too happy about the monopolistic aspects of the UK motion picture industry, indications are that it is making every effort to keep it in a fair state of health. Harold Wilson, whose position as head of Britain's Board of Trade gives him great powers over the industry, asked greater consideration for British films in Canada but put a boost in for non-Rank product at the same time.

Before leaving for his three-week visit to Canada Wilson gave the ailing British industry shots in the arm.

The National Film Finance Corporation has promised loans to ten companies, according to the managing director of the corporation. Of the ten companies named, four are concerned with the distribution of films and six are producing companies. The loans to the producing companies will enable a number of closed studios to reopen. Three other companies have applied for help but no announcement has been made on these as yet. Five years is the longest period for which a loan can be made, the Corporation providing from 10 to 50 per cent of the total cost of production.

During a meeting in April, the chairman of the British Lion Film Company told stockholders that the 700,000 pounds loss reflected in the financial statement was incurred in producing pictures costing 4,500,000 pounds. With the exception of two films, all to date show a loss. An authorization was given to increase the borrowing power from 2,000,000 pounds to 6,500,000 pounds which the chairman stated was necessary for the production program extending over the next 18 months. He informed the group that the National Film Finance Corporation had been approached for an additional loan. According to the press, many British Lion producers and executives have already agreed to work on a reduced salary scale and share in any profits made in the future.

The Crown Film Unit studios opened at Beaconsfield on April 1st. The unit will be producing regular film magazines soon, the first of which will be World in Action, a 20-minute film to explain Britain's problems and purposes in international affairs. British-Pathe has a varied and busy production schedule in that 300 films are planned for 1949 covering the range of educational film strips to newsreels and documentary films.

ECHOES and REFLECTIONS

A Movie Columnist on Censorship

(By Hugh Acton in the Hamilton Spectator)

We were reading the other day the annual report of the Ontario Censor Board. That commendable group of persons reported on the number of films they had reviewed during the last year, how many they had rejected for screening among the good people of Ontario and the number of films in which they were "forced" to make deletions.

No doubt, to some extent, that board serves a good purpose, but, and with a great amount of justification, the word "censorship" has a bad connotation. Many thinking persons are asking: "Why censorship of the movies? We are not children who are to be told by some group in Toronto: 'This movie shall you see; this movie shall you not see.'"

When it's argued, that the movie censors stand between the children and many of the bad influences of some films, these movie-goers reply: "There are a great number of films entirely suitable for youngsters without deletions by a board of censorship. It is up to us, as parents, to select what films will be seen by our children."

Meantime, while the Ontario censors are busily hacking scenes and sequences out of the films, books that can curl the hair of those most worldly adults are being sold by the thousands in this city and others to the youngsters. It is a known fact that the teen-agers are among the most avid customers of this salacious type of reading material. Why no censorship there? Many of the most successful stage shows, if filmed as they are presented nightly to the public —now and again one finds its way to this city—would never see a screen in Ontario.

Margaret O'Brien To Do 'Alice' Voice

Walt Disney's two-year search for the perfect voice for Alice In Wonderland ended with the signing of Margaret O'Brien for the role.

The young actress, who recently obtained her release from an MGM contract which had another six months to run, has started recording the voice of one of the greatest fictional characters in literary annals.

Alice In Wonderland, which will be one of the highest-budgeted films in Disney's long career, will be an all-cartoon musical production on the scale of Snow White and the forthcoming Cinderella. Cinderella, currently in production, will be filmed in the all-cartoon medium, too, and is slated for release early in 1950.

Donald Woods Added To New U-I Film

Donald Woods has been signed for an important role of an industrial public relations counselor in Universal-International's Free For All, starring Robert Cummings and Ann Blyth.

Free For All, is the new title of the picture previously known as Hot Water.

David Niven Cast In 'Beloved Over All'

David Niven has been cast by Samuel Goldwyn in a starring role, with Farley Granger and Joan Evans, in Beloved Over All. Ann Blyth has been borrowed from Universal-International for another lead in this film, which will be released by RKO Radio.

Fox Buys Comedy

The Stork Does Not Bring Babies, an original romantic comedy has been purchased by 20th Century-Fox from screenwriter S. K. Lauren as a possible vehicle for Betty Grable. Sol C. Siegel will produce the picture, which is to be retitled.

Holt Names Stars

Randolph Scott, Jane Nigh and Joan Taylor will be starred in Nat Holt's 20th Century Fox release, The Fighting Plainsman.

Barbara O'Neill In Fox' 'Whirlpool'

Barbara O'Neill has been assigned the role of Teresa Randolph in 20th Century-Fox' Whirlpool, which is being produced and directed by Otto Preminger with Gene Tierney, Jose Ferrer and Richard Conte in the leading roles.

Saranac Home To Variety Intern'l

The Will Rogers Memorial Hospital for Tubercular Show People was taken over last week by Variety Clubs International. The institution, operated since 1936 by the Will Rogers Memorial Fund, will be known henceforth as Variety Clubs-Will Rogers Hospital.

Tent 28, Toronto, along with other Variety Clubs, is sharing in the support of the institution and Canadian industry members are eligible for admission.

A great medical laboratory dedicated to a search for a permanent cure for TB will be established by Variety in connection with the hospital.

Formal transfer of the $1,500,000 sanatorium, an Adirondack landmark since it was founded in 1921 by the National Vaudeville Artists, was made at a luncheon attended by theatre industry executives.

Walter Vincent, former president of the Will Rogers Memorial Fund, presented the deed of the hospital to Robert J. O'Donnell of Dallas, Tex., vice-president of Interstate Theatres and new president of the hospital.

Variety Clubs International is a fraternal and philanthropic organization of showmen, theatre operators and film exhibitors. It plans a $200,000 expansion program at the hospital named in honor of Will Rogers, humorist and showman, who was killed in a 1935 plane crash.

Facilities will be enlarged to care for 140 patients. The present capacity is ninety. Planned also is a new staff building and installation of the latest type X-ray equipment. The hospital will continue to be available to persons in show business. It already has cared for 1,200 persons. Annual operating expenses are about $200,000.

Among those at the transfer ceremony were the new officers of the hospital. All are theatre industry executives. They are C. E. Lewis, executive vice-president; Ted Gamble, Abe Montague and Richard F. Walsh, vice-presidents; Max Cohen, secretary; and F. H. Fabian, treasurer. All are from New York.

Dr. George E. Wilson will continue as medical director of the hospital, a post he had held since 1934.

'Turned Up Toes'

Keenan Wynn has been added to the cast of Turned Up Toes, 20th Century-Fox comedy of the Chicago gangster era of the 1920's, which will star Paul Douglas, Jean Peters and Cesar Romero.

The West's most Thrilling Adventure!
Outlaw man...
Untamed horse!
...and a woman whose reckless love won them both!
From the Studio that gave you "Canyon Passage"!
Zane Grey's
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HOWARD DUFF • GEORGE BRENT
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Spectacularly filmed in the outdoor glory of the Rockies!
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